

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

http://www.dfg.ca.gov 1416 Ninth Street Sacramento, CA 95814 (916) 653-6897



October 21, 2004

Re: Nominations for Marine Life Protection Act Initiative Master Plan Science Advisory Team

Dear MLPA Science Advisory Team Interested Parties;

As part of the recently established California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative (Initiative) I am seeking your nominations for members of the Master Plan Science Advisory Team (Science Team).

As you may know, the 1999 Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) directs the Department of Fish and Game (Department) to design and manage a network of marine protected areas (MPAs) in order to, among other things, protect marine life and habitats, marine ecosystems, and marine natural heritage. The Resources Agency and Department are partnering with the Resources Legacy Fund Foundation and others in the Initiative to achieve the goals of the MLPA with strong scientific support.

The Science Team will include and expand upon the membership required of the Master Plan Team in the MLPA and will provide the scientific knowledge and expert opinion necessary to assist the Task Force in developing a draft Master Plan Framework. This team will review and comment on scientific papers, review draft documents, and resolve scientific issues or questions presented to them.

In coordination with the full team, a sub-group of the Science Team will assist in designing and evaluating alternative networks of MPAs in an area along the central coast.

The Science Team will not make policy judgments. Where there are scientific options or uncertainties, the Science Team will frame the options and refer policy questions to the Task Force. The Science Team is not intended to advocate a

specific view or views, but to present the available data to the Task Force so they may make fully informed recommendations.

The Science Team will include 15 to 20 individuals with a broad range of expertise such as ecology, fisheries science, oceanography, coastal processes,

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pollution, social science and economics. I hope that you will be able to provide well qualified and interested nominees in one or more of these areas.

The Department will contact potential candidates regarding their interest and availability. After considering all nominations, and in consultation with the Secretary for Resources, President of the Fish and Game Commission and the Chair of the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force (Task Force), I will appoint the Science Advisory Team Members as well as the Chair of the Team.

Members of the Science Team will be expected to attend open public meetings to be held approximately bimonthly. Members will serve for the duration of the Initiative, until November 2006. Science Team members will be reimbursed for travel costs on request, but will receive no other compensation.

The MLPA Initiative is now moving forward on a brisk schedule. I am, therefore, requesting that you provide your nominations to the Department of Fish and Game by November 10, 2004 as indicated below.

Mail: Patricia Wolf, Manager, Marine Region Attn: MLPA Science Team Nominations 4665 Lampson Ave, Ste. C Los Alamitos, CA 90720

Email: dparker@dfg.ca.gov

Subject: MLPA Science Team Nominations

FAX: (562) 342-7139

Attn: Dave Parker, MLPA Science Team Nominations

Thank you for considering this request. I look forward to receiving your nominations for the MLPA Science Advisory Team.

Sincerely,

L. RYAN BRODDRICK

Director